

*Tortrix rusticana*, Hw. 1811, was a primary homonym of *Tortrix rusticana*, Hb., Samml., Tort. t. 11 f. 66 (1796-1799). *Spilonota quadrana*, Stephens 1834, is a secondary homonym within the genus *Eucosma* of *Tortrix quadrana*, Hb., Samml., Tort. t. 35 f. 223 (1811-1813). The sub-specific name, *ochreana*, Hauder 1918, was praeoccupied within the same genus by *tetraquetrana* ab. *ochreana* by Hauder himself.

So far as I can see, this common species has no valid name and it is therefore necessary to rename it [*farfarae*,] n. sp.

### RETARDED EMERGENCE IN TRYPETIDAE.

By H. W. ANDREWS, F.R.E.S.

In August 1935 I gathered at Cranmore Heath, Isle of Wight, a large bunch of heads of saw-wort (*Serratula tinctoria*, Tr.) with a view to breeding *Trypeta vectensis*, Coll. and in June-July 1936 fair numbers of this fly emerged and also about a dozen *Euribia spoliata*, Hal. as recorded in Vol. XLIX of this magazine (Supplement to March 1937 issue). As both species were much in demand with correspondents, a friend kindly got a further bunch of seedheads from the same locality in the summer of 1936, from which I hoped for more specimens in due course.

On 25th June 1937 I noticed several *vectensis* on my window, and thinking that the 1936 seedheads had got uncovered I inspected the box, but found all was intact with no evidence of any emergences. I then looked at the box with the 1935 seedheads, which quite by chance had not been thrown away, and found the cover partly open and several more *vectensis* in the box. In the next three weeks there emerged from the 1935 seedheads nearly as many *vectensis* and considerably more *spoliata* (about two dozen) than were bred in 1936. The 1936 seedheads (a much smaller bunch) produced in the same period two or three *vectensis* and seven *spoliata*. The room in which both lots had been kept is upstairs, facing north, and without artificial warmth, except for an electric stove at week-ends in the winter months.

I know of no published records of retarded emergence in other British Trypetids, though certain species are known to be double-brooded. Mr Niblett mentions *Trypeta* (*Orellia*) *colon*, Mg., *Carphotricha* (*Noeeta*) *pupillata*, Fall., and *Euribia quadrifasciata*, Mg., as having more than one brood in the year. Dr Varley says (*in litt.*) of *E. quadrifasciata*:—"The first emergence in the year is in June and July, and flower-heads of black knapweed collected in July gave a lot of flies in August. Many more came out the following May. I am convinced that since the flower-heads were simply put in a box and allowed to dry there is no chance that these flies emerging in August laid eggs and bred in the emergence box. In fact, under field conditions they would find flower-heads suitable for them to oviposit very scarce indeed. I am of the opinion that the August emergents are wasted in the field. I have not kept knapweed flower-heads for longer than a year, so that I do not know whether *E. jaceana* hangs over for more than one winter. I noticed in September 1936 that a few larvae of *E. jaceana* remained in the old flower-heads, not yet having pupated. They might under normal conditions pass a second winter as larvae, but I have no direct evidence of this."

Dr Varley also drew my attention to records of an American Trypetid, *Rhagoletis complecta*, Cresson, the "Walnut Husk fly" of economic importance, which has been found by experiment to emerge two, three, and even four years after pupation; but in this case as the insect pupates in the earth the retardation is probably caused by conditions other than those applying to seedhead species.

In a somewhat different category comes *Myopites frauenfeldi*, Sch. I swept imagines of this fly in August 1935 from heads of the Golden Samphire (*Invula crithmoides*, L.) in the Isle of Wight, where the species was abundant, and at the same time collected a number of galled heads of the host plant. From these heads imagines continued to emerge till well into September of 1935, and from the same lot of heads in some numbers in June-July 1936, but not later than the middle of July.

Hitherto I have, as a rule, thrown away seedheads after the required insects have emerged, and I suspect other collectors do likewise, but it would be interesting to know if any dipterists who have kept seedheads for a year after the appearance of the first brood of flies have had experience of this "retarded emergence," in Trypetid species.

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### BEELZEBUB.

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When Ahaziah ben Ahab was taken ill, he consulted his physicians. It seems probable, judging from the treatment recommended, that they diagnosed some intestinal complaint conveyed by flies, for Ahaziah sent messengers to consult the leading dipterist available at the time.

This was an unpardonable thing to do, as the chief dipterist lived in Ekron, which was a city of the Philistines. For a Jew Ahaziah was unusually unpatriotic.

Now the Philistines were no fools, and realised what modern commentators have until recently completely failed to understand, that flies are something more than a mere nuisance to bald-headed men, that they are a grave menace to public health. This is understood in all arid countries, and the valley of Jordan seems to have been particularly infested with this pernicious plague.

To cope with them the Philistines, not having the advantages of modern knowledge, did what many primitive, direct-thinking peoples do in difficulties. They set to work to appease their persecutors. To approach them, they focussed their efforts upon personification, that one should represent them all. They therefore appointed him Chief Fly, whose name in Hebrew was Beelzebub, the Lord of Flies.

It is amusing how this name has bewildered even the most learned commentators. No less an authority than Dr Bennett, formerly Professor of Old Testament Exegesis, writing in the *Encyclopedia Britannica* (eleventh edition), appears to have taken it for a territorial title, for he plaintively laments that there is no such place known as Zebub, for Baal to be lord of.

This "common Hebrew noun," he admits, quite clearly means flies, so it would perhaps be rather an odd place-name. Another learned divine, Dr Baethgen, author of *Beiträge zur semitischen Religionsgeschichte*, comments in even more naive manner. Beelzebub, he explains, is the "Baal to whom all flies belong or are holy." Quite right